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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi ODA et al.

Group Art Unit No: not yet assigned

Serial No : 10/573072

(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014455)

Examiner: not yet assigned

I.A. Filed : September 14, 2004

For : METHOD FOR DETERMINING SEVERITY OF AND
PREDICTING PREGNANCY-INDUCED HYPERTENSION
AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING FETUS AND
PLACENTAL FUNCTIONS IN PREGNANCY-INDUCED
HYPERTENSION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents cited in the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report for International Application PCT/JP04/014455, of which the above-referenced application is the U.S. National Stage Application.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,790,635, which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of JP 2000-249709;
2. JP 2001-220354 A;
3. EP 1111387 A, which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of JP 2000-146980 A;

4. EP 0999447 A, which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of WO 98/49559 A;
5. U.S. Patent Application No. 2003-190678, which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of WO 02/008756 A;
6. JP 2001-215226 A;
7. U.S. Patent Application No. 2004-038314, which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of WO 97/16461 A;
8. Shiki et al.: "Changes of lipocalin-type prostaglandin D synthase level during pregnancy". J. Obstet. Gynaecol. Res., Vol. 30, No.1, pp. 65-70 (February 2004); and
9. Melegos et al.: "Prostaglandin D2 synthase: a component of human amniotic fluid and its association with fetal abnormalities". Clinical Chemistry, Vol. 42, No.7, pp. 1042-1050 (1996).

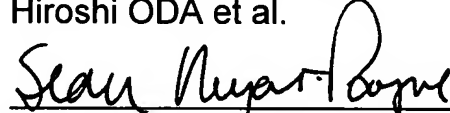
Copies of the above-listed documents (with the exception of the U.S. patent and the published U.S. patent applications) are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-1449. Also included is a copy of the International Preliminary Search Report (in Japanese). Copies of the International Search Report (in English and Japanese) were enclosed with the papers when entering the National Stage on March 23, 2006. The Examiner is invited to review the Search Report to ascertain the relevance attributed by the International Examiner to the listed documents. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO-1449.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroshi ODA et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Murphy".

Bruce H. Bernstein

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June 12, 2006
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